

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-28 are pending in the application; however, claims 10 and 11 were cancelled in Applicants' November 5, 2001 Preliminary Amendment. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 12-28 are actually pending in the application. Of these, claims 1, 6-8 and 14-16 have been further amended herein; they have been amended in the interests of clarity and addressing informalities. The present title has been replaced with a more descriptive one. Finally, the specification has been amended in a number of places in the interests of clarity and correction of inadvertent errors. No new matter has been introduced by any of the amendments herein.

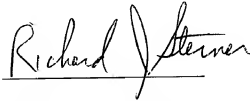
The Office Action consists solely of a restriction requirement. In response thereto, Applicants hereby elect restriction Group II, consisting of those parts of claims 1-9 and 12-28 drawn to compounds wherein substituent R_1 is pyridyl, i.e., a species of R_1 falling within the definition "heterocyclcyl comprising at least one nitrogen atom." In connection with this election, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the disclosure in the specification running from page 6, line 24 to page 7, line 4 and on page 8, lines 6-11. It can be seen therein that R_1 as a pyridyl moiety can be substituted by a number of different groups.

Applicants also wish to bring the Examiner's attention to the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement, whereby two additional references are made of record.

No fee should be due in connection with this communication. However, should it be determined that a fee is required for any reason, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge it to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: May 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Sterner", is written over a horizontal line.

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